



Spring 2016

MESSAGE FROM DR. TOM PRASCH, CHAIR

Wandering into one of the lecture rooms at the annual Kansas Association of Historians meeting at Baker University, preparing to catch another panel of Washburn students presenting there, I noticed another professorial type chatting up our students. Kerry Wynn, who was chairing the panel, noted my curious gaze and offered to introduce the interloper. It was a historian from the University of Nebraska at Kearney. He had several Graduate Assistant positions to fill, had gotten a relatively weak and rather light batch of applications for the posts, and was down at KAH recruiting for their program. And our people had caught his eye.

I don't know whether any of our students are moving on to Nebraska's heartland this coming semester; I rather doubt it. But I'm not surprised that a recruiter looking for good potential graduate students had found his way to our

our group. For one, we would have been hard to miss. Our students—plus one alum and four professors—absolutely dominated the KAH program. In fact, you could go to the conference and never not be watching a Washburn presenter; we had folks in every available time slot (and in one slot, Washburn presenters at three different concurrent panels). But, more importantly, if you were interested in good potential graduate students, the excellent work our students were presenting would undoubtedly draw your attention. I routinely tell people interested in coming to Washburn that we like to push our students to present at conferences, and that when they do they always look good standing up beside graduate students. This conference was good proof of the point.

The panel our Kearney guest was about to sit through, for example, was a fascinating survey of the kinds

of historical scholarship the could be generated by closely examining a person's library, in this case the family library of Wichita founder (and Indian trader, and buffalo hunter, and early President of the Kansas Association of Teachers of History, as the KAH was originally known), one of two full panels developed out of Wynn's "Adventurer's Library" course (discussed in more detail below). The kinds of insights students drew from their trolling through Mead's library were testament, first of all, to their own hard work and strong grounding in both formulating and answering interesting historical questions. But it also points toward one of our real strengths as a department: that we offer, on top of the basic foundational courses in US and world history, a rich array of engaging innovative courses.

Thus, this past semester advanced students could choose Wynn's course, and spend some time in the brought to

campus, or they could explore with Bearman the topic “Civil Religion and the American Presidency.” That course generated a very solid panel of papers at Apeiron, Washburn’s annual showcase for student scholarship. This past spring break, they could choose to travel, in a course team taught by our own Bruce Mactavish and Mulvane Museum’s Connie Gibbons, to Southern sites that were key parts of our country’s Civil Rights legacy; that course, too, generated a panel of student papers for Apeiron. The semester before, our students could choose between the interdisciplinary “Reflections on Water” course I put together with Art professor Marguerite Perret, or they could explore the real history behind the familiar movie images in Tony Silvestri’s brand-new “Pirates” course. This coming semester, Kelly Erby will be teaming up with novelist Tom Averill for a second (and last, given Averill’s impending retirement) time to teach “Dining Out,” a tasty interdisciplinary exploration of foodways in history, film, and literature. We have a rich tradition in Washburn History of constantly innovating in our course offerings, and of pushing at disciplinary and pedagogical boundaries as we do so. Such a learning environment engages our students in original research, and our push to get them to present their work at places like KAH is not only our way of showing off our pride in their accomplishments, but also a tool to turn them into active, engaged, lifelong learners.

And the results are clear. Consider Scott Brackey, now doing graduate work in Library Science at Emporia, but, having gotten his start at presenting his scholarship as an undergraduate at Washburn (featured in multiple Apeiron and KAH conferences), he’s been hooked. So there he was again this year at KAH, on a panel with Kim Morse; there he was as well as the Rocky Mountain Conference of Latin American Studies, where he was joined by Kim Morse as well as by two other alumna who cut their conference teeth while undergraduates at Washburn, Bethany Mowry-Ramos (now doing graduate work at history at the University of Oklahoma) and Hannah Thompson (finishing up a Master’s in Museum Studies at Texas Tech). These sorts of conference connections not only give us ways to keep up with our alumni, but also give us the opportunity to watch their continued development as scholars.

Of course, there are other ways to see such growth as well. This past weekend, just after watching our sixteen freshly minted graduates cross the stage, I dropped in on the party to commemorate Jeremy DeLong’s doctoral gowning. A double major in History and Philosophy at Washburn, he had just completed his doctorate in Philosophy at the University of Kansas, although we historians can take at least a little continuing credit in his

choice of dissertation topics, the ancient Greek philosopher Parmenides. And, having been among those reading the dissertation chapters steadily churned out by Jennifer (Mills) Wiard, examining the place of popular preacher Billy Sunday in US religious history, she’s not far behind. Meanwhile, Cara Burnidge, professor of religious studies at Northern Iowa, has just inked the contract with University of Chicago Press for her book, *A Peaceful Conquest: Woodrow Wilson, Religion, and the New World Order* (due out in October).

So we have much to be proud of at Washburn History, both in our own classroom work and scholarship and in the exemplary work our students and one-time students produce. We look to build on those solid foundations. We can do that best by keeping connected with our alumni and by building bridges between those we have launched into the world and those in our classroom now. So keep connected: drop us a line, come by for a visit, and of course donate money to keep our programs vital and alive.

GET ON THE BUS

This spring Professor Bruce Mactavish repeated his Exploring Civil Rights travel course, which he first taught in 2014 (this time around Mactavish co-taught the course with Connie Gibbons, director of the Mulvane Art Museum). Over spring break, the class traveled to Tennessee, Mississippi, and Alabama to visit sites important to the struggle for civil rights. In explaining the need for such a course at Washburn, Mactavish pointed to the legacy of civil rights activist Fannie Lou Hamer, who believed that progress depends on continual struggle. MacTavish said he hoped his students would find inspiration to continue Hamer’s mission for social justice for all Americans. History major Nicole O’Brate suggests the course was more than successful in this regard. Of her experience, O’Brate writes, “The past week has been absolutely surreal. As a group we went to so many places: museums, parks, churches, college campuses, and other historic sites. We shared memories that will last a lifetime. Every place we went to, the final message was always to keep moving forward; continue to fight for justice for all people; create a world of love, and equality. I have become extremely passionate about this idea of a movement to advocate for justice for all people no matter their race, their gender, or their stature in life, because when we stand together, there is nothing we can’t accomplish. It is inspiring to know others feel the same way I do, and it is my greatest hope that we can keep moving forward together.”

**2016-2017
SCHOLARSHIP
WINNERS:**

ALKNIS
SCHOLARSHIP:
AMANDA
MCGUIRE

BRIGHT/BADER
SCHOLARSHIP:
KATHERINE WADE

DANKER
SCHOLARSHIP:
OLIVIA BANZET

DAVIS
SCHOLARSHIP:
MARISSA COYLE

GALLE
SCHOLARSHIP:
MALLORY LUTZ

GEIGER
SCHOLARSHIP:
ZAC GILLIS

HAYWOOD
SCHOLARSHIP:
CHLOE
MOORADIAN

MACKAY
SCHOLARSHIP:
HEATHER
SHRIMPLIN

WAGNON
SCHOLARSHIP:
ZAC GILLIS

WAHL-
STOLTENBERG
SCHOLARSHIP:
CHRIS BOWERS
AND JOHNATHAN
HART

IN REMEMBRANCE OF ANNE FUND

Anne Fund, History Department Secretary Extraordinaire of thirty years, passed away on April 9. The one line obituary she wrote for herself best sums up Anne: “Anne Fund passed away in the hospital on April 9 after a lifetime of enjoying bad bad habits.” Anne had a wry wit and did not suffer fools or other such puffed-up people lightly. Her lifetime philosophy and who she was, her sass, her humor, but also her deep commitment to students, shaped the Department in so many ways. We became a reflection of her. Anne was wicked sharp. She could, with perfect timing and a dry laugh, deliver a “too close to home” comment on any topic, politics, religion, history, life. She was an excellent writer and skilled proofreader who saved faculty from many embarrassing errors in recommendation letters, reports, and a myriad of other contexts. She ran the department efficiently and most effectively as times, technology, and the student body changed over her decades here. There would not be History Day without her. Anne loved the faculty and the students deeply in the best way, unconditionally, but not uncritically. We all became better people and learned to appreciate life a bit more because of the time we shared with her. Honestly, we would all be better served if we could be a bit more Anne-like. So drink a beverage, coffee in the morning, wine after noon, in her honor and enjoy your bad habits. Thank you, Anne.

WHERE ARE THEY NOW? ALUMNI UPDATES

Joshua Shald (B.A. '07)

Josh recently moved to California to take the position of Director of Curriculum and Instruction at Breakthrough San Francisco. This nonprofit organization provides intensive academic enrichment and support to motivated San Francisco students with limited educational opportunities. Breakthrough admits approximately 36 fourth graders annually, of whom over 90% are students of color and qualify for free- or reduced-priced lunch. The organization also operates a highly selective summer teaching residency for outstanding college students; in his new role, Josh provides coaching and counseling to these undergraduate teaching fellows.

Originally from Coffeyville, Kansas, Josh completed his B.A. in History in 2007 and then joined Teach For America, a selective national teaching corps that trains college graduates to teach in under-resourced schools. He taught first grade to Latino/a children in families living below the poverty line in Glendale, Arizona, a suburb of Phoenix. While teaching, Josh earned a Master's degree in Elementary Education from Arizona State University, studying ways to improve reading fluency among children learning English as a second language.

For the next five years, Josh remained in Phoenix, joining the staff of Teach For America's Teacher Leadership Development team, which focused on coaching teachers. As a team manager, he and his colleagues were responsible for more than 200 Arizona teachers. In 2014, he returned to the classroom as a 7th grade social studies teacher and Principal intern, and over the next two years completed a second Master's degree at Arizona State, in Educational Leadership.

This past October, Josh enjoyed reconnecting with friends and Washburn faculty during the University's 150th anniversary and homecoming celebration.



Sheena Smith (B.A. '07)

Since 2012, Smith has been an Analyst at the Kansas Health Institute in Topeka, a non-partisan, non-profit research organization providing evidence-based



information to policymakers and citizens with the goal of improving health for all Kansans.

A native of Atchison, Sheena studied history at Washburn and also earned a B.A. in Political Science with a certificate in Non-Profit Management. She was active in student government, interned for Gov. Kathleen Sebelius, and studied abroad in both China, and Cambridge, England.

In 2010, Sheena completed a Master's of Public Policy at the University of Chicago, and then moved to Washington, D.C. as an analyst with the

Government Accountability Office (GAO), the investigative arm of Congress. During her two years with the GAO, Sheena evaluated a variety of programs, including military whistleblowing within the Department of Defense and implementation of the Sex Offender Registry and Notification Act.

More recently, at the Kansas Health Institute, Sheena serves as a project director for Access to Care work, including authoring an annual report health insurance coverage in Kansas. She also works with colleagues on Health Impact Assessments, researching potential impacts that could result from policies before they are enacted. These assessments cover a range of topics, from casino development in southeast Kansas, to changes in liquor-licensing laws, to proposed medical marijuana policies.

Sheena believes that the best parts of attending Washburn were the people she met and the many learning opportunities that helped her to develop her interests in policy research. Since 2014, she has served as an adjunct instructor for the University, teaching one class each fall, PO 401, "Program Evaluation."

HISTORIANS CAROLINE JANNEY & MIA BAY VISIT WASHBURN AS FINK PROFESSORS

This spring, two prominent historians visited Washburn as Fink Professors. The Ruth Coechner Fink Visiting Professorship in Leadership provides an opportunity to invite scholars to campus to give seminars, workshops, and public lectures in an effort to make the already rich learning at Washburn even richer. In February, Dr. Caroline Janney, history at Purdue University, came to campus. Professor research focuses on the Civil War and how the war remembered the nation's bloodiest war. Dr. Janney visited classes, spoke to faculty about their roles as public and gave the annual Lincoln-Harman lecture commemorating Washburn's legacy as Lincoln College. She part in a fieldtrip to see important historical sites in Kansas, Adair cabin in Osawatomie, Kansas, the site of the Pottawatomie Massacre, and the battlefield of the Battle of Then in March, Dr. Mia Bay, professor of history



Dr. Mia Bay addressing faculty in March.

environment professor of Janney's generation several intellectuals, also took including the Black Jack.



Dr. Caroline Janney giving the annual Lincoln-Harman lecture in February.

and the Director of the Center of Race and Ethnicity at Rutgers University, paid a visit. Dr. Bay's books include *The White Image in the Black Mind: African American Ideas about White People* (2000), *To Tell the Truth Freely: The Life of Ida B. Wells* (2010), and *Toward an Intellectual History of Black Women* (2015). At Washburn, she spoke to students and faculty about cultivating inclusiveness and gave a public lecture addressing the reform efforts of Ida B. Wells

in honor of women's history month.

HELP US ENSURE THE SUCCESS OF OUR GRADUATES!

We are always pleased to hear about the accomplishments of our alumni. Now, we are enlisting your assistance to benefit our current students. Please take the time to fill out our survey of graduates, available online, to advise us regarding the skills, courses, and extra-curricular opportunities that will help students gain a foothold in your field. Thank you! Just click this link to be taken to the survey: <https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/8XPJ6M5>

COURSE SPOTLIGHT: THE ADVENTURER'S LIBRARY BY DR. KERRY WYNN

I first heard of James R. Mead—explorer, trader, statesman, and founder of Wichita—one day last spring, when Tom Prasch raced into my office and offered me the opportunity to teach a class unlike any we had offered before. Through the efforts of Tom Averill, Writer in Residence and Professor of English, and Alan Bearman, Dean of Libraries and Professor of History, Mabee Library had acquired Mead's family library, a collection of 381 books collected over generations in an upper-class Wichita household. Dr. Prasch was looking for a historian to teach a class using the Mead collection, and the time period fit my interests. Would I like to use the collection to create a course? My answer, of course, was yes.

This spring, I offered "The Adventurer's Library: Understanding the Intellectual World of Nineteenth-Century Kansas" as an innovative, upper-level history course. Students enrolled in this course engaged in primary-source research, producing a substantial research paper exploring nineteenth-century American intellectual life. Each student had the freedom to select his or her topic; the only stipulation was that they must conduct original research in primary sources inspired by the books in the collection. Over the semester, students explored the library, discussed various models for writing historical articles, and seized the opportunity to "do history." Faculty from across campus visited the class to share their insights from the books in the collection. We traveled to Wichita to visit Mead's papers, archived at Wichita State University, and to meet with Dr. Schuyler Jones, the grandson of James R. Mead and a fascinating man in his own right.

As we learned about the Mead Collection together, some students gravitated to the books owned by James R. Mead, learning more about his varied life and career. Born in 1836, in Vermont, Mead spent much of his youth in Iowa. In 1859, Mead traveled to Kansas to seek his fortune, hunting for profit and establishing trade relationships with men from many tribes including the Kanza, Cherokee, Kiowa, Comanche, and Wichita. Over the next half century, Mead would shape the future of Kansas as a founder and developer of the city of Wichita, the president of a railroad and a bank, and a state representative and senator. In his later years, however, Mead grew to regret his role in developing Kansas, preferring the plains of his earlier years. History major **Chris Bowers** found James R. Mead's later ruminations on his early years on the plains reminiscent of Jonathan Swift's *Gulliver's Travels*. Chris' research, which he presented at the Kansas Association of Historians annual meeting, elucidated the connections between Mead and Gulliver as explorers.

Other students preferred the books of the women in Mead's family, and quite a few studied the literature collected by James R. Mead's sister, Lizzie, or his daughter, Ignace. Thanks to the efforts of History Major **Rose Hastings**, we better understand how these two women exemplify changing trends in women's education during the nineteenth and early twentieth centuries. Rose also delivered her paper, "French on the Farm: Foreign Language Education as a Kansas Woman in the Nineteenth Century," at the KAH annual meeting.



Above: Members of Dr. Wynn's class at Wichita State University, along with Tom Averill, Dr. Schuyler Jones, and Dr. Lorraine Madway, Curator of Special Collections and University Archivist at Wichita State.

Still more students followed the trails of the Mead family's books down paths that took them far from Wichita, including History majors **Deanna Toenjes** and **Rachel Williams**, who also presented their work at the Kansas Association of Historians annual meeting. Deanna's research explored a genre of children's literature that none of us had ever encountered before, as she focused on Lucy Aikin, a nineteenth-century feminist and author and her book, *Robinson Crusoe in Words of One Syllable*. Rachel's discovery of the narrative of Anna Brassey, a wealthy British traveller, eventually led her to investigate the Topeka Travel Club, an organization that facilitated social connections for middle-class women.

Now that the semester has ended, I can happily report that our semester in the adventurer's library was even better than I had expected it to be, and I'm looking forward to spending more time in the future with the Mead family's books. You should, too. They're waiting for you in the basement of the Mabee library, with most of their secrets still to be discovered.

FALL 2017 UPPER-DIVISION COURSE OFFERINGS

HI 300B: Dining Out in History, Literature, and Film—From the eating houses that dished up hash at mid-day for hungry Irish laborers in the 19th century, to the elite French dining rooms at the turn of the 20th, to your favorite burrito place today, restaurants have long joined Americans in shared experience: the act of purchasing and eating a meal. Restaurants have also served as markers of class, race, ethnic, and gender distinction. This course examines the restaurant in history, literature, and film to illuminate the American appetite. We'll also spend some time considering the restaurant in a broader world perspective. Readings will include menus, memoirs, novels, cookbooks, restaurant reviews, films and advertisements. Meets MW 1-2:15PM. Taught by Erby.

HI 303A: History of Colonial America to 1763—Study of the age of exploration and establishment of the original thirteen North American colonies. Emphasis will be given to the British colonies of the western hemisphere, but the course will also include those colonies of other nations as they affect American growth and development. It will include a broad treatment of social, political, economic, religious and intellectual forces to 1763. Class will be both lecture and discussion in nature, and evaluation will be by two written assignments and one comprehensive final exam. Meets TR 9:30-10:45AM. Taught by Wiard.

HI 307A: American Civil War 1848-1877—Survey of the sectional crisis beginning with the conclusion of the Mexican War in 1848 to the resolution of the crisis by 1877. Themes include the nature of the Northern and Southern societies, including slavery; the political crisis of the 1850s; relative military strengths of each side; the role African Americans played in their own liberation; and the social, economic and political transformations known as Reconstruction. Exams are a

combination of identification terms and essay questions. Evaluation consists of midterm final, interpretive essays from assigned readings, and a research project. Meets TR 11AM-12:15 PM. Taught by Mactavish.

HI 312A/HI 612GA: War's Impact on America—Students will read a wide range of historical literature dealing with the WWI era through the Iraq and Afghanistan Wars. The class will reflect on the legacies of war on political, economic, social and cultural areas of America's life and thought. The course will include reading and writing assignments, lectures, discussion, guest presentations and films. Meets TR 11AM-12:15PM. Taught by Goossen.

HI 319A: American Indian History— This course examines the history of American Indian societies, concentrating mainly on the period from the seventeenth century to the present. It emphasizes topics related to sovereignty, intercultural relations, political and economic trends, and the diversity of American Indian cultures. Students will read extensively in primary and secondary sources, and will produce research papers on topics they select. There will be two exams and student participation in class discussion will also be assessed. Meets TR 1-2:15 PM. Taught by Wynn.

HI 300A: Ancient Greece—In this course students will explore the history and culture of ancient Greek civilization from the Minoans and Mycenaeans to late antiquity. We will read important works by ancient Greek authors covering those genres of intellectual history pioneered by the Greeks—epic poetry, history, drama, politics and philosophy. Also included in the course is a complex and extended historical stimulation game which will place students as members of the Athenian Assembly in 403 BCE. In addition to Midterm and Final exams, students will be required to write analysis essays on their choice of the primary sources readings, as well

as speeches and other documents for the Athens simulation. Meets MW 1-2:15 PM. Taught by Silvestri.

HI 331A: Early Modern Europe, 1300-1750— Covering the Italian Renaissance and its diffusion to the north, the Reformation as a social and political as well as religious movement, the conditions that fueled the European Age of Exploration, the consolidation of nation-states, and the formation of a trans-Atlantic trade network grounded on slavery. Meets MWF 11-11:50 AM. Taught by Gillaspie.

HI 361A: Colonial Latin America— This course surveys Latin American history from the pre-Columbian era to 1820. Through the exploration of the fundamental events of colonial Latin American history using primary documents we identify key political, economic, religious, and social institutions of Spanish colonial rule, evaluate the role of the Church and religion in society, examine intersections of race, class, and gender in colonial Latin America, and discuss the causes of the wars for independence and the manifestations of colonial social, political, and economic realities in the wars and their resolutions. Grade based on two exams, a 10-page research paper, and class participation. Graduate component: Lengthy and substantial research paper incorporating primary sources. Meets TR 8-9:15 AM. Taught by Morse.

HI 370A/670GA: Modern Africa, c. 1700-Present— Beginning with the intensification of slave trading and missionary activity in the 18th century, continues with the New Imperialist conquest of Africa by European powers, and closes with the formation of independent states in Africa since mid-century. Three tests, divided between in-class portions focused on text and lecture and take-home portions dealing with primary sources, and one paper (7-10 pp), a short research paper which will be presented in class. Each of the three tests and the paper will count 25% of the grade. Meets TR 1-2:15 PM. Taught by Prasch.

APEIRON

The Department of History made an impressive showing at this year's Apeiron, an annual campus-wide event held each April to showcase students' research, scholarship, creative activities, and community engagement. This year's participants included Johnathan Hart, Austin Harris, Kinsey Ashworth, Mallory Lutz, Jordan Callison, and Nicole O'Brate.



Tony Silvestri has developed an avid following among participants in Washburn's Over-60 Audit Program, which allows Kansans sixty years and over to audit classes without having to pay tuition. Every semester, the auditors in Dr. Silvestri's courses take him to lunch as a way to thank him for another wonderful semester.



CONGRATULATIONS TO THE NEWEST MEMBERS OF PHI ALPHA THETA:

Olivia Banzet, Chris Bowers, Carson Crain, Zachary Hinnergardt, Erika Lane, Mallory Lutz, Vincent Neff, Christianna Pope, Justin Sanders, and Alexandra Schafer. Students are inducted into Phi Alpha Theta after completing a minimum of 12 semester hours in history courses and earning at least a 3.1 GPA., demonstrating excellence in their history coursework.



Congratulations to Alumnus Jordan Boyd, one of our secondary education licensure students, who completed our program in 2014. Jordan received the Horizon Award in Lawrence, Kansas. The Horizon Award is given to outstanding teachers in their second year of teaching. Jordan teaches U.S. History at Free State High School.

ANNUAL MEETING OF THE KANSAS ASSOCIATION OF HISTORIANS



Tupac Amaru, serial killers, societal resistance to Nazism, women's roles in occupied Okinawa and Japan, novels about abolitionist John Brown, gender dynamics of American Catholicism, feminist travel literature in the nineteenth century—these are just a handful of the diverse topics Washburn students, alumni, and faculty members presented about at the annual meeting of the Kansas Association of Historians, held at Baker University this April. According to undergraduate Chloe



Mooradian, participating in the conference strengthened her understanding of history as a dialogue between historians about historical interpretation. Washburn was especially well-represented at this year's conference; ten undergraduates and one alumni presented papers, while four faculty members presented papers or chaired panels.



FACULTY UPDATES

Rachel Goossen's research on institutional complicity regarding sexual abuse and women's resistance to it, focusing on the international scope of 20th c. theologian and ethicist John H. Yoder's abuses, received wide attention this past year. *The Washington Post*, *National Catholic Reporter*, and publications in Europe and Latin America reported on her work. Goossen has presented on this topic in Winnipeg, Manitoba; Kansas City, Missouri; Lawrence, Kansas; and at Bethel College, where she spoke on March 8, International Women's Day. Goossen's newest scholarship, on sexual abuse as a public health issue, is forthcoming in *The Journal of Mennonite Studies* (2016). Her writings can be accessed here: <https://washburn.academia.edu/RachelWaltnerGoossen>. Goossen continues to serve as a Kansas Humanities Council "TALK" presenter, and in April she gave a keynote address at the Anabaptist Leadership Symposium, Eastern Mennonite University, Harrisonburg, Virginia.

Tony Silvestri returned to Houston in May for the premiere of opera #3, "The Trial of Alice," commissioned by the Houston Girls Chorus, with composer Mark Buller. It's an absurdist courtroom procedural based on the last scene of Alice in Wonderland. This summer Silvestri will be a grader for the AP World History exam in Salt Lake City. He will also serve as the lyricist-in-residence for the World Choral Fest in Kansas City in late June, working with choirs from different countries as they prepare for a concert at the Kauffman Center featuring the world premiere of a new collaboration with Norwegian composer Ola Gjeilo. In July Silvestri will be teaching a retreat/workshop in the materials and techniques of medieval manuscript illumination at the St. Benedictine Abbey in Atchison, KS.

Alan Bearman continues to teach courses in early American and religious history. He also serves as the Dean of the Libraries and the Center for Student Success and Retention at Washburn.

Kelly Erby repeated her upper-division course this fall on abolitionist John Brown. In the spring, she developed a new course about abolitionism and the beginnings of the women's suffrage movement. Her essay "Between Bolted Beef and Bolted Pudding': Boston's Eating Houses and Nineteenth-Century Social and Cultural Change" appeared in the collection *Devouring Cultures* (University of Arkansas Press, 2015). Erby's book *Restaurant Republic: Boston and the Rise of Dining Out* will be published in September 2016 by the University of Minnesota Press. Erby continues to serve as the book review editor at *Kansas History: A Journal of the Central Plains* and as the Concurrent Enrollment Program liaison for the Department of History.

Tom Prasch this past fall, working with Marguerite Perret (Art), created an innovative interdisciplinary course, "Reflections on Water." The course built upon the "Drift and Drag" art installation Perret curated and contributed to, imbedded the interdisciplinary faculty colloquium as a course feature, and incorporated a range of guest presentations. Aside from his own research paper for the colloquium, Prasch has presented papers at eight conferences over the past year. His most recent publications include "'Radiation's Rising, but One Mustn't Grumble Too Much': Nuclear apocalypse Played as Farce in Richard Lester's *Bed Sitting Room* (1969)" in Karen Ritzenhoof and Angela Krewani, *The Apocalypse in Film: Dysopias, Disasters, and Other Visions about the End of the World* (2016)

and "Facing This Vast Hardness': The Plains Landscape and the People Shaped by It in Recent Kansas/Plains Film," introducing the biannual selection of film reviews in *Kansas History* (Summer 2015).

Kerry Wynn has exciting plans for this summer. She is one of 25 historians who have been selected to participate in *Doing Digital History 2016*, a workshop at George Mason University sponsored by the National Endowment for the Humanities. This two-week workshop will introduce participants to the tools and techniques of digital humanities, exploring the possibilities of applying 21st-century technology to the study of history. She is looking forward to the opportunities this might create for future innovative courses like "The Adventurer's Library," which she taught this semester (described in more detail above), and for the future of her research, a portion of which she presented as "To Devote Their Whole Time to Literary Work': Cherokee Students and Parents Protest Manual Labor at Haskell Institute, 1910–1920," at the annual meeting of the History of Education Society.

Kim Morse kept busy enough teaching two sections of HI102, HI395, and HI363 Borderlands and Beyond. In addition, she was one the Washburn cast of thousands to present at the Kansas Association of Historians. In early April, she presented at the Rocky Mountain Conference of Latin American Studies with three stellar History Department alumni (see next page).

BODS IN SANTA FE

The Sixth Hermanitas Conference was a rousing success, bringing 196 middle and high school students to campus, three dozen professionals, and Amy Hinojosa, president of MANA National. Much of Kim's time is dedicated to the Summer Institute, the new program under the umbrella of Student Success dedicated to recruiting, supporting, and mentoring a select group of USD501 seniors through a summer bridge program and then through their first two years at Washburn. The first group of students will be on campus for five weeks in July and early August. Kim was most honored to receive the Herrick Award for Outstanding Service on April 20. As she has said before and will say again and again, this is the best department in the world.

Bruce Mactavish has rediscovered the power of historical field trips to engage students in understanding important historical questions. This past Spring students in his Kansas History class gained an understanding of differing interpretations of "Bleeding Kansas" by visiting Osawatomie and Pottawatomie, Kansas as well as Harrisonville, Missouri. During Spring Break, he co-led "Exploring Civil Rights," a WTE travel course. See related story...Mactavish continues to play an active role in community events celebrating and commemorating the Brown v Board decision.

Three History Department alumni, Bethany Mowry (University of Oklahoma), Hannah Thompson (Texas Tech) and Scott Brackey



(Emporia State) presented papers with Kim Morse at the 63rd Annual Meeting of the Rocky Mountain Conference of Latin American Studies on April 1, 2016 in Santa Fe, NM. The panel, "Of Mummies, Mermaids, and Memory: Latin American Narratives and Tropes in the Trans Atlantic World," brought together the quirky research interests of all four participants. The four also shopped, ate, and survived snow and other revelry along the way.

CONGRATULATIONS TO DR. MORSE

A much deserved congratulations to Dr. Kim Morse who received the university-wide Herrick Faculty Award for Outstanding Service. Dr. Morse has distinguished herself through her contributions to the discipline of history, this department, the University, and the Topeka community.



CONGRATULATIONS TO OUR
SPRING 2016 GRADUATES:

RYAN ALFSON, KINSEY
ASHWORTH, CHRISTOPHER BIRD,
TREY DARR, TOBY HALVERSON,
ALEXANDER HAUG, TORI HUBER,
AUSTIN MAIN (HONORS), KATIE
MCAFEE, MADISON POWERS, LISA
SATTEETHWAITE, BRANDON
SCHMITTER, JEFFREY SCHUH,
CHRISTOPHER SWAN (HONORS),
RACHEL WILLIAMS, AND JORDAN
WOLF

GOOD LUCK IN YOUR FUTURE
ENDEAVORS! STAY IN TOUCH!



Attention Alumni & Friends!

Keep us current on your activities and contact information! Complete this form and send it to Dr. Kelly Erby, Department of History, Washburn University, 1700 SW College Ave, Topeka, KS 66621

Name: _____

Address: _____

Email: _____

News: _____

General donations to the Department of History are always welcome to further the activities of students, faculty, and general program needs.

Checks can be made payable to "Washburn University Foundation—History Department" and mailed to 1729 SW MacVicar Ave Topeka, KS, 66604. We appreciate your support!

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